

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) ~~The connecting construction as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that~~ A connecting construction for components of a system frame, comprising:

- a framework having frame struts and a cross bracket connecting the frame struts,
- a sheet steel corner plate which is arranged in each case in the region in which the cross bracket is connected to the frame strut and which has a corner recess in the corner region of the plate in which the cross bracket is connected to the frame strut,
- a coupling unit that is connectable to the frame strut via the sheet steel corner plate,
- a further recess in the sheet steel corner plate approximately level with the corner recess and offset inward,
- a further coupling unit having a first coupling element and a second coupling element,
- wherein the first coupling element is connectable to a frame tube,
- wherein the second coupling element is fastenable in the further recess of the sheet steel corner plate with at least one of a positive and non-positive fit, and —the second coupling element (34) has a spacer profile (36) and a projecting profile (38) arranged on the free end side of the spacer profile (36), it being possible for said projecting profile to be connected or said projecting profile is connected being connectable in the further recess (24) of the sheet steel corner plate (20) with at least one of a positive and/or and non-positive fit.

3. (Currently amended) The connecting construction as claimed in claim 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the projecting profile (38) is ~~designed as~~ a hammer head and the further recess (24) is ~~designed as~~ a slot ~~in such a manner so~~ that in order to connect the further coupling unit (30) to the sheet steel corner plate (20), the projecting profile (38) can be introduced into the further recess (24) as far as the stop of the spacer profile (36) and the at least one of a positive and/or and non-positive connection fit is produced by rotation of the further coupling unit (30) by

said rotation causing the hammer head of the projecting profile (38) to engage at least in some ~~areas~~ area behind the sheet steel corner plate (20).

4. (Currently amended) The connecting construction as claimed in claim 3, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the slot of the further recess (24) is arranged vertically upright.

5. (Currently amended) The connecting construction as claimed in claim 3, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the slot of the recess is arranged ~~lying~~ horizontally.

6. (Currently amended) The connecting construction as claimed in claim 13, wherein ~~one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the further recess (24) is arranged spaced apart from the lower edge of the cross bracket (14).

7. (Currently amended) The connecting construction as in claim 13, wherein ~~elaimed~~ ~~claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ the first coupling element (32) of the further coupling unit (30) is ~~designed as~~ a tube half-coupling.

8. (Currently amended) The connecting construction as in claim 13, wherein ~~elaimed in~~ ~~claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ the further coupling unit (30) is ~~designed as~~ a single-piece metal cast part, ~~in particular a metal cast part~~.

9. (Currently amended) The connecting construction as in claim 13, wherein ~~elaimed~~ ~~claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ the length (L) of the projecting profile (38) is selected in such a manner that the clear distance (L2) of a frame tube (40), which is connected parallel to the cross bracket (14) in the first coupling element (32) of the further coupling unit (30), from the sheet steel corner plate (20) is greater than the length (L1) of the maximum projecting length relative to the sheet steel corner plate (20) of a coupling unit (52) arranged in the corner recess (22).

10. (Withdrawn) The connecting construction as claimed in claims 1 to 3, characterized in that

- a rotation prevention unit is provided which secures the further coupling unit (30) against rotation in a position in which it is connected to the sheet steel corner plate (20).

11. (Currently amended) The connecting construction as in claim 13, wherein ~~claimed in claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ the further recess (24) of the sheet steel corner plate (20) has a cross-sectional deformation (68) pointing out of the plane of the sheet steel corner plate.

12. (Currently amended) The connecting construction as claimed in claim 11, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the cross-sectional deformation (68) is provided encircling the further recess (24).

13. (Currently amended) ~~The connecting construction as claimed in claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ A connecting construction for components of a system frame in a scaffolding, comprising:

- a framework having frame struts and a cross bracket connecting the frame struts,
- a sheet steel corner plate which is arranged in each case in the region in which the cross bracket is connected to the frame strut and which has a corner recess in the corner region of the plate in which the cross bracket is connected to the frame strut,
- a coupling unit that is connectable to the frame strut via the sheet steel corner plate,
- a further recess in the sheet steel corner plate approximately level with the corner recess and offset inward,
- a further coupling unit having a first coupling element and a second coupling element, wherein the first coupling element is connectable to a frame tube, and wherein the second coupling element is fastenable in the further recess of the sheet steel corner plate with at least one of a positive and non-positive fit, and

- an additional recess (26) is provided below the corner recess (22) of the sheet steel corner plate (20), ~~by means of which and~~ an additional coupling unit (54) can be connected or is connected that is connectable to the frame strut (12) via the additional recess.

14. (Currently amended) The connecting construction as claimed in claim 13, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the additional recess (26) on the sheet steel corner plate (20) is formed by a U-shaped recess which is open toward the longitudinal connecting edge of the sheet steel corner plate (20).

15. (Withdrawn) The connecting construction as claimed in claims 1 to 3, characterized in that

a further coupling unit (30) is connected in each case in the further recess (24) to the two sheet steel corner plates (20) of a framework (10), and the coupling units (30) are connected to a continuous frame tube (40).

16. (Currently amended) A coupling unit ~~(30)~~ apparatus for a frame system in a scaffolding, in particular for use in a connecting construction comprising: ~~frameworks (10) which have a framework having~~ frame struts (12) and ~~cross brackets (14)~~ a cross bracket connecting the frame struts, (12), ~~a sheet steel corner plate (20) which is arranged in each case in the region in which the cross bracket (14) is connected to the frame strut (12) and which has a corner recess (22) in the corner region of the region plate in which the cross bracket (14) is connected to the frame strut, and (12), by means of which a coupling unit (52) can be connected to the frame strut (12),~~ characterized in that ~~a further recess (24) is provided in the sheet steel corner plate~~ approximately level with the corner recess (22) and offset inward, and the coupling apparatus comprising:

first and second coupling units, wherein the first coupling unit is connectable to the frame strut via the sheet steel corner plate, and ~~a further~~ the second coupling unit (30) is provided with a first coupling element (32) and a second coupling element; and (34), it being possible for  
a frame tube (40) to be connected that is connectable to the first coupling element,

wherein (32), and the second coupling element (34) being designed in such a manner that it can be fastened is fastenable in the further recess (24) of a sheet steel corner plate (20) with at least one of a positive and/or and non-positive fit.

17. (Currently amended) ~~The coupling unit as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that~~ A coupling apparatus for a frame system comprising a framework having frame struts and a cross bracket connecting the frame struts, a sheet steel corner plate which is arranged in each case in the region in which the cross bracket is connected to the frame strut and which has a corner recess in the corner region of the plate in which the cross bracket is connected to the frame strut, and a further recess in the sheet steel corner plate approximately level with the corner recess and offset inward, the coupling apparatus comprising:

first and second coupling units, the first coupling unit being connectable to the frame strut via the sheet steel corner plate, and the second coupling unit being provided with a first coupling element and a second coupling element; and

a frame tube that is connectable to the first coupling element,

wherein the second coupling element is fastenable in the further recess of a sheet steel corner plate with at least one of a positive and non-positive fit, and [[-]] the second coupling element (34) has a spacer profile (36) and a projecting profile (38) arranged on the free end side of the spacer profile, (36), it being possible for said projecting profile to be connected being connectable into the further recess (24) of the sheet steel corner plate (20) with at least one of a positive and/or and non-positive fit.

18. (Currently amended) ~~The coupling unit apparatus as claimed in claim 16 or 17, wherein characterized in that~~ the projecting profile (38) is designed as a hammer head in such a manner so that, in order to connect the further second coupling unit (30) to the sheet steel corner plate (20), the projecting profile (38) can be introduced into the further recess (24) as far as the stop of the spacer profile (36) and the at least one of a positive and/or and non-positive connection fit is produced by rotation of the first coupling unit (30) by said rotation causing the hammer head of the projecting profile (38) to engage at least in some areas area behind the sheet steel corner plate (20).

19. (Currently amended) The coupling ~~unit~~ apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein one or more of claims 16 to 17, characterized in that the first coupling element (32) of the further second coupling unit (30) is designed as a tube half-coupling.

20. (Currently amended) The coupling ~~unit~~ apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein one or more of claims 16 to 17, characterized in that the first coupling unit (30) is designed as a single-piece cast part.

21. (Withdrawn) The coupling unit as claimed in one or more of claims 16 to 17, characterized in that

- the length (L) of the connecting profile (38) is selected in such a manner that the clear distance (L2) of a frame tube (40), which is connected parallel to the cross bracket (14) in the first coupling element (32) of the further coupling unit (30), from the sheet steel corner plate (20) is greater than the length (L1) of the maximum projecting length relative to the sheet steel corner plate (20) of a coupling unit (52) arranged in the corner recess (22).

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) ~~The framework suitable for use within the context of a connecting construction for components of a system frame as claimed in claim 22, characterized in that~~ A framework suitable for use within a connecting construction for components of a system frame in a scaffolding comprising:

- frame struts and a cross bracket connecting the frame struts,
- a sheet steel corner plate which is arranged in each case in the region in which the cross bracket is connected to the frame strut and which has a corner recess in the corner region of the plate in which the cross bracket is connected to the frame strut,
- a coupling unit that is connectable to the frame strut via the sheet steel corner plate,

- a further recess in the sheet steel corner plate approximately level with the corner recess and offset inward, said further recess being used to connect a further coupling unit, the further coupling unit having a first coupling element and a second coupling element, wherein the first coupling element is connectable to a frame tube, and wherein the second coupling element is fastenable in the further recess of the sheet steel corner plate with at least one of a positive and non-positive fit, and

- an additional recess (26) ~~is~~ provided in the sheet steel corner plate (20) below the corner recess (22) of the sheet steel corner plate, and (20), by means of which an additional coupling unit (54) can be connected that is connectable to the frame strut (12).